

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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R 211630Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1393

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

QOEMBASSY BLANTYRE 1902

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, RH, ZA

SUBJECT: ANC LEADER MUZOREWA VISIT TO ZAMBIA: CALL FOR ANC UNITY

SUMMARY. ON ARRIVAL LUSAKA FROM SALISBURY MARCH 17, ANC CHAIRMAN MUZOREWA CHARGED SMITH REGIME HAD JEOPARDIZED DETENTE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND CALLED FOR RETURN TO SPIRIT OF GOODWILL PREVAILING AT TIME OF DEC 11 LUSAKA ACCORD. IN MAJOR ZAMBIA RADIO ADDRESS MARCH 19, BISHOP DEVOTED HIMSELF TO PLEA FOR END TO ELEVEN YEARS BICKERING AND FIGHTING AMONG ZIMBABWEAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS SO AS TO FORGE "POWERFUL WEAPON OF UNITY" FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF ONE AIM -- MAJORITY RULE. END SUMMARY.

1. AT MARCH 17 ARRIVAL PRESS CONFERENCE, MUZOREWA BLAMED SMITH REGIME'S "IRRESPONSIBLE ACTS" FOR ENDANGERING SPIRIT OF DETENTE. SITHOLE DETENTION HAD VIOLATED LUSAKA AGREEMENT. ANC "SICK AND TIRED" OF BEING MADE SCAPEGOAT FOR TACTICAL BLUNDERS OF REGIME WHICH HAD DELIBERATELY DISTORTED TERMS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACCORD REACHED IN DECEMBER. ANC TASK HAD BEEN MADE "EVEN MORE

DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE." HE WONDERED WHETHER REGIME REALLY WANTED A SETTLEMENT AT ALL.

2. DUE TO CHITEPO ASSASSINATION, MUZOREWA SPEECH TO ZIMBABWEANS ALREADY TAPED MARCH 18 WAS REPORTEDLY SCRAPPED AND REVISED FOR DELIVERY MARCH 19. SPEAKING FROM LUSAKA BECAUSE HE WAS DENIED ACCESS TO RADIO RHODESIA, BISHOP DELIVERED WHAT WAS MORE A SUNDAY SERMON THAN REVOLUTIONARY LEADER'S HARANGUE. MAKING FREQUENT USE OF PARABLES, HE DRUMMED ON THEME OF BLACK ZIMBABWEAN UNITY AS ONLY WAS TO HASTEN DAY OF INEVITABLE MAJORITY RULE. CITING BLOODY FRATRICIDAL VIOLENCE OF 1963 AND SINCE AMONG RIVAL NATIONALIST FACTIONS WHICH HAD PLAYED INTO HANDS OF RHODESIAN FRONT, HE WARNED AGAINST THOSE CONCERNED MORE WITH PERSONAL AGGRANDIZEMENT OR THAT OF PARTICULAR TRIBES OR POLITICAL GROUPS THAN WITH COMMON GOAL OF MAJORITY RULE. CRITICIZED THOSE IN "IVORY TOWERS" ADVOCATING ARMED STRUGGLE WHILE SITTING SAFELY FAR FROM BATTLEFIELD. REJECTED NOTION THOSE NATIONALISTS WHO ARE OR HAVE BEEN IN DETENTION SHOULD FOR THAT REASON ALONG BE ENTITLED TO HIGHEST PLACES IN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE. QUARRELING BEFORE-HAND OVER DIVISION OF SPOILS SELF-DEFEATING; NATIONALIST ENERGIES SHOULD BE DEVOTED TO SINGLE AIM OF RECOVERING COUNTRY FROM "IMPERIALISTS" AFTER WHICH THE PEOPLE CAN CHOOSE LEADERSHIP "IN NORMAL, PEACEFUL AND DEMOCRATIC WAY." MUZOREWA APPEALED TO WHITES TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY WISHED TO REMAIN IN AFRICA, TO RECOGNIZE MAJORITY RULE IS INESCAPABLE, AND TO COOPERATE IN ASSURING IT ACHIEVED IN PEACEFUL MANNER. "WE NOT FIGHTING WHITES; WE FIGHTING EVIL." MINORITY RIGHTS AND PROPERTY WILL BE PROTECTED.

3. ACCORDING PRESS REPORTS TODAY, MARCH 21, MUZOREWA HAS CANCELLED PLANS FOR VISITS TO LIBERIA, NIGERIA, TANZANIA, MALAWI AND OTHER COUNTRIES TO REMAIN IN LUSAKA FOR CHITEPO FUNERAL AND WILL RETURN TO SALISBURY TO PRESIDE OVER SPECIAL SESSION OF ANC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUNDAY, MARCH 23.

4. COMMENT: MUZOREWA HAS EVERY REASON TO BE WORRIED ABOUT PERSONAL, TRIBAL AND ORGANIZATION RIVALRIES AMONG ZIMBABWEAN NATIONALISTS. IN WAKE OF CHITEPO ASSASSINATION, BISHOP'S MARCH 19 ADDRESS, WHILE DIRECTED AT OTHERS AS WELL, DOES APPEAR PRIMARILY A REPRIMAND TO ZANU FACTION ABOUT ITS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTERNAL DISPUTES, ANTI-NKOMO POLITICKING, AND CRITICISMS OF ANC NEGOTIATING TACTICS. HE HAD LITTLE TO SAY ON THIS OCCASION ABOUT SMITH REGIME HOSTILITY AND INTRANSIGENCE, STRESSING INSTEAD THAT IT IS ANC'S OWN DISUNITY WHICH COULD KEEP IT FROM ITS GOAL. NATIONALIST UNITY CLEARLY EMERGES AS ANC CHAIRMAN'S IMMEDIATE AND HIGHEST PRIORITY. DISARRAY IN ZANU RANKS MAY PROVIDE OPENING HE NEEDS BUT WHETHER DIMINUTIVE, SOFT-SPOKEN CHURCHMAN CAN TAKE EFFECTIVE ADVANTAGE OF IT

EVEN WITH BACKING AND SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA, REMAINS
TO BE SEEN.
WILKOWSKI

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